

There are four types of grants funded by the Brownfields program that help communities reuse sites. They are:

- ◆ **Brownfields Assessment Grants**
Grants of up to \$200,000 per site to inventory, characterize, assess and plan site work. The funding period is typically two years.*
- ◆ **Revolving Loan Fund**
Grants of up to \$1 million over a five-year period to make loans or grants to an eligible entity, site owner, site developer.*
- ◆ **Cleanup Grants**
Grants of up to \$200,000 for a two-year funding period to site owners to clean up contaminated sites.*
- ◆ **Job Training and Redevelopment Grants**
Grants of up to \$200,000 for a two-year funding period to train individuals for environmental related jobs.*

All of these grant programs require community notification

*Refer to proposal guidelines booklet for detailed criteria of Brownfields Grants

For additional information on grant applications and other resources available to Brownfields redevelopment, please contact one of the Brownfields representatives listed below:

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Applying For A Grant?

You Gotta Tell Somebody!

EPA Region 5 Guide to informing communities about your Brownfields Grant Application



What is Community Notification?

The Brownfields program is one of EPA's biggest success stories. EPA grants have helped turn eyesores into soccer fields, recreation centers and office complexes throughout the nation. These grants can help you do the same in your community.

Getting a Brownfields grant requires some effort, and one item that *must* be included in every grant application is information on community notification. That means you need to tell EPA everything you are doing to inform the people who will be affected by your plans for improvement of the site. Not only do they need to know about your grant application, they need a way to comment on the proposed project, and to participate in its design.

This brochure will explain how to complete the community notification section of your grant application. We'll even give you examples from successful applications.

Good luck!

How do I show community notification in my grant proposals and applications?

Although you must include a community notification section in all grant applications and proposals, it doesn't have to be a long, difficult process. You can document your efforts to notify the community in a variety of ways. Here are some examples of what most successful applicants do:

- ◆ Describe how people were notified of your grant request. Statewide programs require statewide notification.
- ◆ Explain how you made the grant proposal available for public review.
- ◆ Show samples of the notification with distribution and/or publication dates clearly displayed.
- ◆ Show evidence that the public had ample time to comment on the proposal before submission.

What are some good examples of community notification?

There are many methods of notifying the public regarding your proposal. You are the expert on what works in your community, but be sure to provide ample time and opportunity. All successful proposals provide ample time and opportunity for public comment. A few examples are:

- ◆ Place an ad in a local newspaper or other local media such as radio or television. Local cable access stations are also good outlets. A member of the EPA's Brownfields staff can advise you if you need help with this step.
- ◆ Present your proposal during an open government meeting.
- ◆ Hand out fliers to affected residents door-to-door.

Below is an excerpt from the community notification section of an approved grant:

Notification was sent to each of the local government and tribal leaders within the county advising them of the specific interest and intent to submit a grant application to the United States Environmental Protection Agency for brownfields assessment funding. Each local government and tribal leader was encouraged to provide input and comments. A second notice was available for public review and comment. See exhibit 2 for copies of notification and responses as well as a copy of the newspaper Public Notices dated Nov. 9-11, 2004.